

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 089907
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY: S/S-PSEBASTIAN
APPROVED BY: S/S- SEBASTIAN

-----211832Z 049126 /41

R 211815Z APR 77 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO WHITE HOUSE

S E C R E T STATE 089907

NODIS
WH FOR DR BRZEZINSKI

FOL TEL SENT ACTION SECSTATE FROM PEKING DTD 21 APR 1977
DTG R 210743Z APR 77 QTE

S E C R E T PEKING 0784

NODIS

FOR THE SECRETARY AND ASST SECRETARY HOLBROOKE FROM AMB GATES

E.O 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, CH US

SUBJ: VOA BROADCASTS TO CHINA

1. WE HAVE SOME SERIOUS COMPLAINTS ABOUT THE VOICE
OF AMERICA BROADCASTS TO CHINA. ON APRIL 13 VOA REPORTING
ON THE BRADEMAs DELEGATION'S PRESS CONFERENCE QUOTED
BRADEMAs AS SAYING THAT "THERE WAS DISAGREEMENT ON A
NUMBER OF ISSUES INCLUDING THAT OF THE REPUBLIC OF
CHINA ON TAIWAN" (SEE STATE 087689 FOR TEXT OF VOA'S
BROADCAST). THE "REPUBLIC OF CHINA" PHRASE WAS

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HARPED UPON BY NANCY TANG DURING THE BRADEMAs RETURN BANQUET, AS
WE HAVE PREVIOUSLY REPORTED. BRADEMAs
DID NOT USE IT (WE LISTENED TO REUTERS TAPE AND
BRADEMAs HANDLED PRESS QUESTIONS VERY WELL INDEED),
NOR DID AFP. VOA APPARENTLY INSERTED "REPUBLIC OF
CHINA ON TAIWAN" ITSELF AND THEREBY CAUSED A FORMAL
DEMARCHE BY THE CHINESE WHICH BRADEMAs INDIGNANTLY

(AND CORRECTLY) DENIED. THIS TYPE OF INACCURATE REPORTING IS DETRIMENTAL TO U.S. INTERESTS. IF I WERE BRADEMANS I WOULD TELL VOA WHAT I THOUGHT OF THEIR ADDING THEIR OWN WORDS TO WHAT WAS ACTUALLY SAID, ESPECIALLY ON SUCH A SENSITIVE SUBJECT. I HOPE YOU WILL BRING THIS MATTER TO VOA'S ATTENTION.

2. I REALIZE THAT PART OF THIS ISSUE IS VOA'S CONTENTION THAT IT IS A FREE NEWS REPORTING AGENCY REPORTING EVENTS AS THEY HAPPEN. PC GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, HOWEVER, TREAT VOA AS THE OFFICIAL VOICE OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT. WE HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO PERSUADE THEM TO THE CONTRARY.

3. WHILE I AM ON THE SUBJECT, I WAS DISTRESSED TO HEAR VOA'S BROADCAST THIS MORNING. IT SAID THAT ACCORDING TO ADMINISTRATION SOURCES, LEONARD WOODCOCK HAD BEEN APPOINTED CHIEF OF THE U.S. LIAISON OFFICE IN PEKING AND WOULD REPLACE ME. SINCE WE HAVE JUST ASKED THE CHINESE FOR THEIR CONCURRENCE AND HAVE NOT YET RECEIVED THEIR REPLY, I WONDER HOW THEY ARE RECEIVING THIS "OFFICIAL" VOA ANNOUNCEMENT. THE SAME BROADCAST SAID THAT WE WERE USING SATELLITE PHOTOGRAPHY TO MONITOR PRC AGRICULTURAL CROPS. I'M SURE THE CHINESE WILL BE AS DELIGHTED AS I WAS TO HEAR THIS NEWS.

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4. FINALLY, THERE HAS BEEN A RECORD OF SIMILAR INSTANCES DURING THE YEAR I HAVE BEEN HERE OF CARELESSNESS IN REPORTING ON THE PART OF VOA AND THIS IS NOT JUST A RECENT DEVELOPMENT. WE ARE CONSTANTLY HAVING TO DENY EITHER THE ACCURACY OF VOA'S REPORTING, OR THE INTERPRETATION VOA MAKES OF DEVELOPMENTS IN CHINA, TO FOREIGN DIPLOMATS HERE. GATES UNQTE VANCE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 21-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
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TAGS: PFOR, SOPN, CH, US, TW, VOA, (BRADEMAS, JOHN), (WOODCOCK, LEONARD)
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